



Messing About In Boats

Monthly newsletter

NC Coastal & Piedmont
Chapter of ACBS

June 2025



2005-2025

Hello Fellow Members,

I hope this finds you doing well and ready for summer activities. Judy and I have had an extremely busy month of May with two grand-kids graduating from college and one of those two getting married, which required travel to Wilmington, NC, Sioux Center, Iowa, and Orlando, FL. We thoroughly enjoyed being with family and friends, but like Dorothy said "there's no place like home".

I have been hard at it trying to get the Cavalier I'm working on water-ready and I'm really close.....I want to use it for the poker run coming up next weekend. Speaking of which, PLEASE sign up SOON so that we may plan accordingly.

The Chesapeake Bay chapter show is next month and I have heard from a few of our members that they will be attending. I have gone up there many times and it never disappoints. The venue is fantastic, there are workshops and historical lectures, vendors and food/beverages.

While I'm on the subject of road trips, some of you may want to consider attending the ACBS

50th anniversary celebration in Clayton, NY in September. Several of us have already secured lodging in order to beat the rush. The official program specifics have yet to be released but I hear there will be many opportunities to socialize and share in the celebration. Keep an eye on the ACBS Weekly Web Watch emails for the schedule of events. These events tend to sell out quickly, so sign up earlier than later.

Welcome to our newest primary chapter members, **Stephen & Anna Weaver** who live in Hampstead and own a steamboat (see p.17) and **Dave & Beth Friedrich** who live in Belhaven and own a 1911 Fay & Bowen Torpedo named Chinook formerly owned by Jim Moores and donated to the NCMM in Beaufort to sell. [Click here](#) and [click here](#) to see more on these classic launches.

As usual, you will find the newsletter filled with a variety of topics and information. Please take the time to read it carefully and take note of the upcoming events. We'd love to see you attend some of them!

Yours in classic boating,
Alax Hills, President



Boat Poker Run in New Bern (Neuse & Trent Rivers) on June 7th

It has been several years (2019) since our last poker run, but those who participated will tell you how much fun it was. We have chosen New Bern because it is the confluence of two rivers, the Neuse and the Trent which provides numerous safe locations where we can distribute envelopes with poker cards in them. The run will end at a waterside restaurant where we will eat lunch and open the envelopes. There might be some other opportunities for fun there as well.

Here is the plan:

10:30 Launch at Lawson Creek Park ramp 1309 Country Club Rd.—get first card

1st stop: Bridgeton Harbor Marina (by RR bridge on Neuse River)

2nd stop: Galley Stores Dock (by Persimmons Restaurant on the water on Neuse River)

3rd stop: Member Leif Eriksson's Dock (on Trent River)

4th stop: Eastern Carolina Yacht Club (on Trent River)

Enter the Plantation canal at marker #3 and tie up at the restaurant by the River Bend marina. Lunch on your nickel at the Salt Water Grill. Return to Lawson Creek Park for retrieval.



We hope to have 10 boats participate. The cost is \$20 per boat to cover the prizes. Please bring one \$10 bill and two \$5 bills to cover entry. Suggest you also bring a couple of more \$5 bills for other games. We'll collect the \$20 when we give you your first envelope. **The best poker hand will receive a monetary prize based on the number of entries.**

It is imperative that we know in advance the number of boats and the number of persons planning to attend. If you would like to come, but don't have a boat, [email President Alan Hills](#) and he'll hook you up. [To register email Alan by June 3rd.](#) Family and guests are welcome!

P.S.: We will bring the **new burgees** so that those interested may purchase them at \$35 with cash or a check.

REMINDER

Check your ACBS profile.
Update it and your boat
information as needed.

Items Sent to ACBS To Include In the 2050 Time Capsule

Contributions by Rob Weller & Alan Hills



Miscellany

Rob Weller will be attending a meeting of the Sea Scout Ship 459 Calypso located in Denver, near his home on June 11th. He will be confering with some other officers and see if we can provide some educational resources on vintage boats for the scouts. The leader is interested in using a couple of trailered boats to teach about electrical, fuel, and safety systems. They only do on-water boating merit badge in the early spring.

The issue of **what a widow should do with the boat when the spouse dies** has come

up several times of late. [Click here](#) for an online discussion of this topic on The Hull Truth. It is enlightening and something we each really need to think about. [Click here](#) for a link to an article on our website "Preparing for the Inevitable." [Click here](#) for a checklist of key documents to have on hand for those who may have to deal with your boat when you die. These documents are good to always have in a safe place.

NCMM Wooden Boat Show in Beaufort 3 May 2025

The May 3rd NCMM Boat Show at Beaufort was well attended by our chapter. Jim & Alice Dean, Bill & Sharon Conley, Larry & Eileen Lettick, Joe & Bev Peacos, Jim & Anne Marie Hartman, John Peck, John Dougherty, Rob Weller, and Margaret Moores were there. Margaret, John Dougherty, the Conleys, the Peacos, the Letticks, and the Hartmans brought boats. Jim Hartman's "Loon" won "Best Classic Inboard." During the Awards Ceremony, museum staff gave a shoutout to our chapter for not only being a show sponsor, but for also bringing so many boats to the show.

We appreciate these members manning our chapter's table and their efforts at recruiting new members. Fortunately the temperature and winds were moderate, making for a comfortable day for the attendees. Pictures by Joe Peacos.



It's not a boat, just a dog at a boat show cooling his foot.



Beaufort Boat Show Photos by Joe Peacos



Iconic Titanic scene recreated on steam boat



Beaufort Boat Show Photos submitted by Anne Marie Hartman



Moore's boat Patience



Photo by Jim Dean

Cleanup of Tar-Pamlico River on May 17th

National River Cleanup Day was May 17th. The North Carolina Coastal & Piedmont Chapter organized a cleanup of the Tar-Pamlico River in the Washington, NC area. Our project partners included: the Royal Rangers Outpost 91 (an adventure-based, merit-driven, faith-based, church ministry and mentoring program for boys), the NC Estuarium (a state-owned environmental, educational facility), Sound Rivers (Riverkeeper), River Vibes (a kayak rental company) and the City of Washington's Public Works Department.

Our chapter was represented by Eileen Lettick (food & publicity), Larry Lettick (boat), and Alan Hills (boat). Also supporting the event were chapter members Cindy Jordan, Jim Alexander, and John Dougherty. Organizer Judy Hills and chapter volunteer Bill Conley were too ill to attend. Volunteer Sharon Conley was also unable to attend.

In addition to our chapter, collaborators included: Katie McCullough (Executive Curator of the NC Estuarium), Katey Zimmerman (Tar-Pamlico Riverkeeper), Lee Godwin (leader of Royal Rangers), and Jennifer Schmitt (River Vibes).

Specific assistance included:

- Our chapter—supplied boats, trash grabbers, trash bags, water & energy bars for participants, and lunch for organizers, the participants, and their families.
- The NC Estuarium—created and help disseminate a poster for the event, helped with publicity, set up Google Drive for photos, and provided chairs for the lunch.
- Sound Rivers—set up the online signup for participants, helped with publicity, and monitored the weather & river conditions.

- The Royal Rangers—provided youth participants and a boat;
- River Vibes—loaned kayaks and PFDs to participants needing them, helped publicize the event, and allowed us the use of their golf cart for hauling lunch supplies.,
- The City of Washington's Public Works Department—picked up the trash we collected and hauled it to the dump.

The group communicated via Zoom and emails to organize the event. Judy created a list of safety instructions for participants and for the boat captains

On the day of the event, it was predicted to rain heavily, but it never did. Thirty youth and adult kayakers participated, along with twelve helpers/facilitators. The youth and adults cleaned the area around the Washington waterfront and across the river at Castle Island. According to Royal Ranger leader Lee Godwin, "The kids had a lot of fun and want to do this again next year." Our Chapter also heard this from several other kayakers.

The participants removed an estimated 25 bags of trash, including large items such as lawn loungers, crab traps, and tires.

Eileen Lettick organized the picnic lunch with the assistance of Cindy Jordan. It was held in the Festival Park Gazebo at the downtown Washington waterfront near the kayak launch ramp. The NC Coastal & Piedmont Chapter served a free lunch to participants and their families.

Our organization purchased 12 trash grabbers for the event and donated them to the NC Estuarium after the event to use as needed. We donated leftover chips and swag bags to

Cleanup of Tar-Pamlico River on May 17th

the Boys & Girls Club of Washington.

The event was featured in the Washington Daily News on page one of the paper on Thursday, May 15, 2025, and the reporter promised a follow-up article with pictures post-event.

This project was a little more complicated to execute because of the number of project partners. Since we had not worked with them before, we did not know if they would

follow through as promised. But they all did! This was a very successful event, and we are truly grateful to our collaborators for helping us to achieve our objective of cleaning up a portion of the Tar-Pamlico River on National River Cleanup Day. The event exceeded our expectations.

The chapter is very pleased at this first effort to participate in National River Cleanup Day, and we hope to do it again next year. We submitted this article and photos to the ACBS WWW. Here are some photos from the event.

National River Cleanup Day - Washington + waterfront cleanup

May 17th 2025



Pamlico-Tar Riverkeeper Katey Zimmerman is teaming up with the North Carolina Estuarium and the North Carolina Coastal & Piedmont Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society to host a river cleanup on the Washington waterfront for National River Cleanup Day. Bring your own kayak or boat if you want to clean up on the water,...

[Read More](#)



Join Us for
NATIONAL RIVER CLEANUP DAY
NC Coastal & Piedmont Chapter of the
Antique & Classic Boat Society
NC Estuarium -- River Vibes -- Royal Rangers -- Sound Rivers

	MAY 17, 2025 FROM 10AM TO 12PM	Sign Up  https://soundrivers.org/event/sign-up-for-national-river-cleanup/
	223 E. WATER ST WASHINGTON, NC	

FREE kayaks available for cleanup.
Must reserve when registering.



Cleanup of Tar-Pamlico River on May 17th



River Vibes



Cleanup of Tar-Pamlico River on May 17th—Pictures



John Dougherty, Alan Hills, and Larry Lettick
shown with Larry's 20' Chris Craft Custom
Runabout Sweetie Pie with Alan's 22' Chris Craft Dory
Hunky Dory in Background



Cleanup of Tar-Pamlico River on May 17th—Photos



Cleanup of Tar-Pamlico River on May 17th—Photos

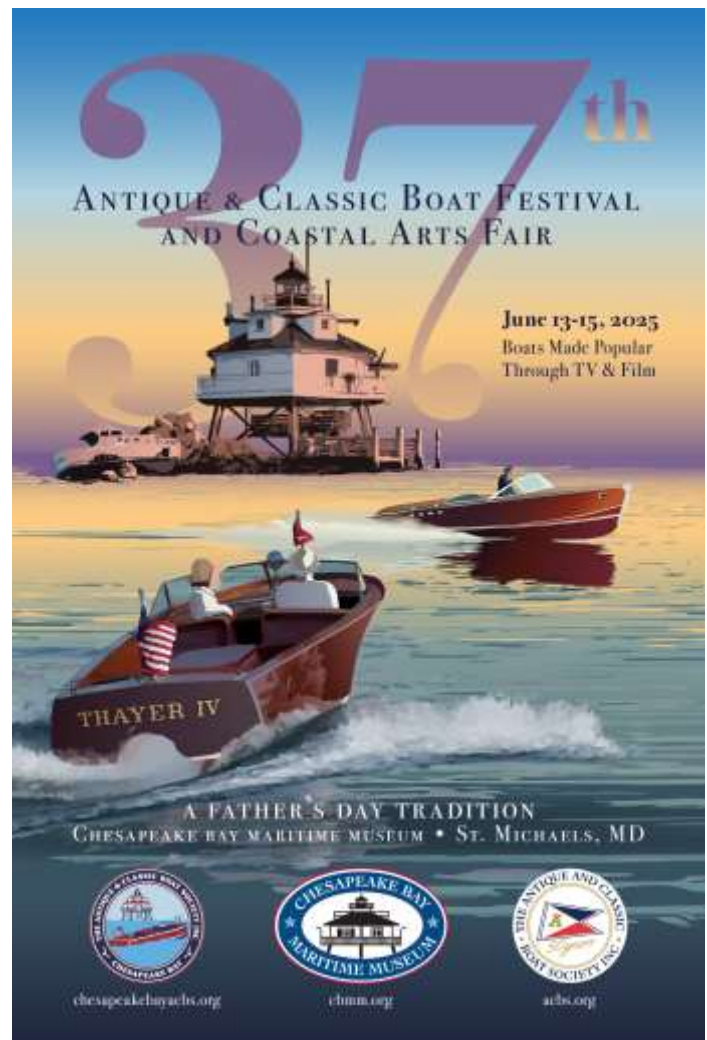


L to R: Katey Zimmerman, Cindy Jordan, Eileen Lettick, Larry Lettick,, John Dougherty, unknown participant, and Jim Alexander

Chesapeake Bay Boat Show June 13-15

This is a fun show and if you have not yet attended, we encourage you to do so, with or without a boat. Several members of our chapter will be there. **Alan and Judy Hills** will land-display their Chris Craft Cavalier that Alan just finished restoring.. We hope to get our chapter members together for dinner on Saturday night. We'll see if we can link up with the incoming ACBS President, Ed Andrews. Please let [Alan](#) know if you will be there.

If you are registering a boat or just getting tickets for the event, do not go to the Museum website. [Click here](#) to make those purchases.



T-Ville Vintage Power Show June 12-14

Those of you who are not planning to attend the Chesapeake Bay ACBS Boat Show should consider taking your boat to the T-Ville Vintage Power Show in Thomasville, NC at 367 Academy Dr. In 2021, a number of us took our boats to this show. It is a hoot to see all the old engines. You'll have lots of people stopping by to reminisce about boats of their youth. The people are very friendly and there is lots to see and do. It is a fun, family event. If you want to enter your boat in the show, call or text (704) 870-7147. You can also check them out on Facebook.



Feature Article on Jim Moores in April 2025 Power & MotorYacht

Jim Moores, boatbuilder, was a member of our Chapter until his untimely death the end of last year. His legend lives on...



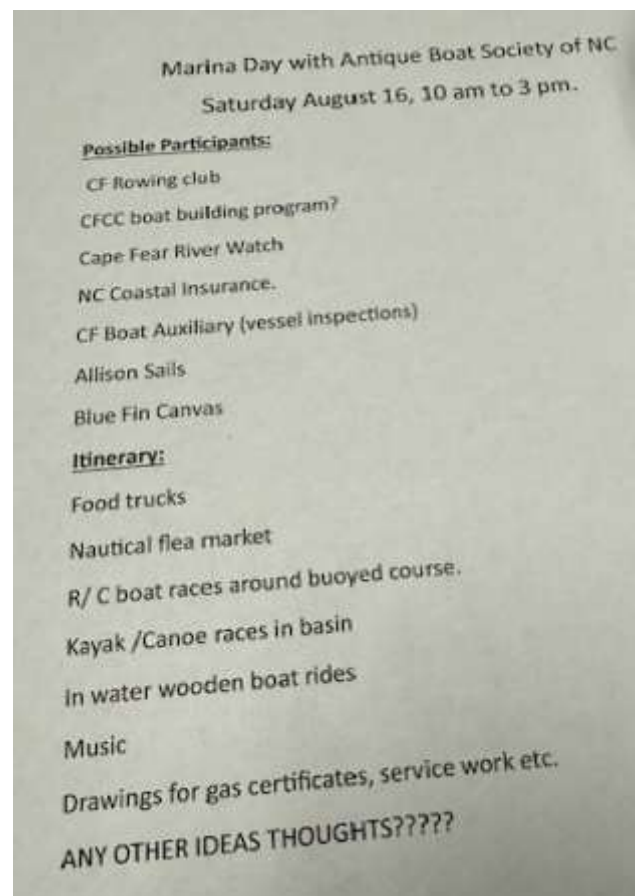
Marina Day & International Vintage Boating Day 8/16/25

This will be our second collaboration with member Mike Loch, manager of the Wilmington Marine Center, to host a marina day there and to celebrate International Vintage Boating Day on Saturday August 16, 2025.

We are trying to grow this event and need some ideas. Mike has a few thoughts but we need more. We also need ideas as to how to best promote it. See Mike's notes on the right.

Things you can do to help:

- [Email your ideas](#) directly to Mike
- Bring your boat to the event (display in water or on the hard)
- Bring nautical items to sell at the flea market
- Staff our chapter's booth at the event
- Support the event by attending
- Help spread the word.



Chris Craft Cabin Cruiser For Sale

Member Stan Thorne has been placed in a memory care facility. His daughters are desperate to sell his boat to help pay for his care. The boat is currently in a slip at Waterfront Villas & Marina at Carolina Beach, NC. It is a 1978 28-ft. Chris Craft Cabin Cruiser that sleeps 4 to 6. It has a new HO engine Vortech 5.7 MerCruiser V-8 that is about 5 years old with < 50 hours. Stan has owned it since 1982 and kept meticulous records. The boat includes a 3-axel trailer. \$10,000 OBO. Respond to Jim Dean at captjim4@gmail.com if interested.



For Sale

CROWN POINT DORY

30 ft. Gaff Rigged
Crown Point Centerboard Dory

Oh No!! is one of the last of the 70 boats built by Emerson Willard. Her ketch rig, shoal draft, mast tabernacles, fixed gas, water and wastewater holding tanks make her ideal for solo, short and coastal river cruising. Built in 1985, her hull is fiberglass reinforced marine plywood and draft is 18" with board up. Over the past year she has undergone an extensive refit and minor repairs to the hull and rig. Currently on the hard in Wilmington, NC waiting on spring for rigging and launching.

\$18,000

252-473-8393 hrwhitfield@gmail.com

Member Horace Whitfield is selling the Crown Point Dory Sailboat on the left. 252.472.8393 hrwhitfield@gmail.com

Member Leif Eriksson is selling the Grand Banks Trawler on the right.
(252) 671-9495
hsgleif@aol.com

For Sale
1972 GrandBanks 36

Fast Fuel Lehman's 36' built and run fine. Original tank items have been removed and fiberglassed over. Coast reef has been rebuilt. Fiberglassed and redesigned hull recently repaired. The cabin has been completely redone, cockpit and 2 coasts below board. The boat is light, clean, shiny, very easy to work. Wiring panel (AC/DC) located in lower helm has been completely updated. Safety cushions have been recommended. A lot of work has been done, but there are still some outstanding projects.

Additional photos: <http://bit.ly/GrandBanks20560>
Please call 252-362-1146 or 252-671-9495 for more info.
A lot of boat for \$25,995

Bath Trip—May 16 to 19

Cindy was a little disappointed that there were only two chapter members who took her up on her invitation to use her family home in Bath. Jim Alexander and John Dougherty stayed for the weekend. On Saturday they helped with the river cleanup and then went back and fished. Here is a picture of Cindy landing a ray on the dock.

On Sunday they took a day trip to Lake Mattamuskeet.



Adding to Our Chapter's Range of Vessels

If you have ever looked at the boats owned by our chapter's members, you will see examples of typical antique and classic outboards and in-boards, wooden and fiberglass. You will also see sailboats, row boats and canoes (Peacos). And now with new members Stephen & Anna Weaver, we have just added a real steam boat!

If you read the article on the Beaufort Boat Show, you may have seen a picture of the boat. What you may not know is that Stephen built it.

[Click here](#) to read the specs and history of his streamer IONA.

In welcoming Stephen to our Chapter, he and Jim Alexander had an email exchange about Steamers. Jim loves steam. He recalls growing up and watching doubled headed steamers pulling anthracite coals trains upgrade out of Scranton and playing on the Nicholson Bridge as they steamed across. Below is the IONA and some pictures from Jim's childhood memories of steam that he shared.



AI Use by ACBS Chapters

Editor's note: This item appeared in the ACBS Weekly Leadership Update this past month.

Get ready for a whole new wave of uses for AI in the antique & classic boating world! Hold onto your ball caps! We researched many sites that listed AI for use with boats and the marine industry. Few had any relevance to our type of boats, but there were some.

Today we want to feature MyGarage.AI <https://www.mygarage.ai/> Clicking on this link will take you to AutoFrame. The site homepage says, "Your car has a story - make sure it's never forgotten. Create a profile for your vehicle, upload photos, share its history, and connect with others who appreciate it's beauty." While the name implies the site is for cars, if you scroll down on the main page, you will see that you can choose the "boat" option which allows you to enter boat details and photo.

We signed into the site using Google and selected Gallery and filtered asset type "boat." Lo and behold, pictures and short descriptions of boats came up. The filter frame allows you to search by make/model and year of production. You can further refine the search by sorting on most recent, most liked, or by year. You can also select the option to see only ones for sale. If you click on one of the pictures, you'll be taken to the detail page for that boat. Each boat has a unique URL. For your boat show, instead of all the visual displays giving her history and restoration, you can just create a QR code for the unique URL, post it on the boat show placard, and with the click of a photograph on a phone, the boat show attendee is taken to this site that has all those details.

Chapter President Alan Hills entered his boat info on the site, and here are his comments on the experience followed by the link so you can check out how it looks. "It was easy to upload the photo. I just added a few pertinent details about the boat and the AI inserted the puffery (as I call it) to the basic information. I let the

AI create the detailed story, but had I wanted to take the time, I could have modified it as well as adding the features, specification data, milestones, and data repository. All-in-all, although I am not personally a fan of sites like these, it was simple to use." [Click here](#) to see the CC Cavalier information.

We encourage all our members to enter their boat information on this site before our fall chapter boat show. We want to create a laminated QR code placard that you can use anywhere, anytime. We will add the QR codes for the ACBS Join URL and our chapter's URL to the placard.

Remember that another benefit of posting your boat's information on this site is that when you are ready to sell that boat, the details are already available. Just think, instead of a detailed ad with pictures, all you have to do is to post the URL.

AutoFame Gallery Events Culture

Garage / Chris Craft 15' Cavalier Utility 1958

1958 Chris Craft 15' Cavalier Utility

VIEWER



Reviving Elegance: The 1958 Chris Craft 15' Cavalier Utility



May Contest

The May contest was for members to give a product name to TotalBoat's Bilge paint. Here are our creative entries.

- Stinky Mess Cover Upper
- Lipstick for your Bilge
- Effluent Barrier
- Leaky Hullz Interior Paint
- Lower Level Hydro Barrier



June Contest: Animal & Boat Pictures

This month we'd like to see your pictures of an animal in, on, or around a boat. And we don't care if you photoshop them together or use AI to create the picture. Have Fun!!!



Chapter Burgees

We have a limited number of chapter burgees available for sale at \$35 each (\$40 if mailed to you). They are 12x18, laser etched, double sided (logo correct on both sides) and made of a durable material. See photo at right for style and colors. If we sell out the first order, we'll place a second order so that we have some on-hand. [Contact](#) Alan Hills if interested.



EMBROIDERED CHAPTER LOGO SHIRTS

Now available. We have our logo with an embroidery company in New Bern. For \$8 each we can get almost any cloth item embroidered. You pick the shirt or other item.

[Contact](#) Alan Hills if interested.



Name Tags—Don't have one? The First One is Free!

Please remember to wear your name tags at chapter events so we can get to know you. If you have never received a name tag—the first one is free to those who hold primary membership in our chapter. The chapter pays and will have it shipped directly to you—you just need to ask for it. You may request additional name tags or a name tag for a co-member. [Click here](#) to read information on how to order. **We also have chapter logo ball caps for \$30.** [Email Alan Hills](#) if you want one.

Members who joined or renewed this past month include:

New: Stephen Weaver (Hampstead, NC), Dave Friedrich (Belhaven, NC)

Renewed: Bill Conley (Raleigh), Bradley Hedrick (Beaufort), Colin Fegeley (Durham), Joe Peacos (Greenville), Mike Loch (Wilmington), Wayne Kish (Manakin Sabot, VA). Dick Kish (N. Chesterfield, VA), Frank Hardin (Semora, NC), Lonnie Sieck (Roxboro, NC)

Welcome!

Total Membership: 72 NCC&P Primary Chapter: 60 Not Primary Chapter: 12

**NC Coastal & Piedmont
Chapter of the ACBS**

<https://www.vintageboat.org/>

President:

Alan Hills (term ends 2025)
252-514-8525

President@vintageboat.org

Vice-President:

Jeff Martinson (term ends 2026)
919-760-2349

Vice-President@vintageboat.org

Secretary:

Judy Hills (term ends 2025)
252-670-1913

Secretary@vintageboat.org

Treasurer:

John Dougherty (Term ends 2026)
321-662-6838

Treasurer@vintageboat.org

2025 Directors:

[Jim Alexander](#) (2025)

[Bill Conley](#) (2025)

[Jim Hartman](#) (2026)

[John Justice](#) (2025)

Kevin Leiner (2026)

Membership Chair:

Jim Alexander
919-960-0838

DirectorJim@vintageboat.org

Scholarship Chair:

Jim Alexander
919-960-0838

DirectorJim@vintageboat.org

Web Master:

Judy Hills
252-670-1913

Webmaster@vintageboat.org

Newsletter Editor:

Judy Hills
252-670-1913

Editor@vintageboat.org



The Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill Triangle Chapter of the Antique and Classic Boat Society, Inc. was officially formed on January 15, 2005 to provide a means through which individuals sharing a common interest in antique and classic boats can meet, share experiences and information, exchange ideas, and generate enthusiasm for all aspects of these unique boats. On March 21, 2019, the chapter officially changed its name to NC Coastal & Piedmont Chapter.

We promote and sponsor classic boating events, as well as educate our membership and the general public about these great craft. We partner with other clubs and organizations to promote awareness and appreciation for the history, research, repair, and restoration of these grand old boats to preserve them for future generations.

Calendar of Events & Meetings

Please note that dates, the places, and times listed for events may change. Watch your email for updates or check the [home page](#) of our website. **Newsletter deadline is the 25th of each month.** Please mark these dates on your calendar:

6/7 Chapter Poker Run in New Bern area

6/12-14 T-Ville Vintage Power Show in Thomasville, NC 367 Academy Dr.(704) 870-7147

6/13-15 [Chesapeake Bay ACBS Boat Show](#) in St. Michaels, MD

7/23 Picnic, Chapter Board Meeting, and cruise (Jordan Lake) 4 PM

8/16 International Vintage Boating Day & Marina Day at Wilmington Marine Center

9/12-13 [Smith Mountain Lake ACBS Boat Show](#)

9/15-21 [ACBS International 50th Anniversary](#) Clayton, NY

9/27 Chapter Boat Show in Chocowinity



What are the ACBS Definitions of Antique or Classic Boat?

Historic: Any boat built up to and including 1918

Antique: Any boat built between 1919 and 1942

Classic: Any boat built between 1943 and 1975

Late Classic: Any boat built 1976 to 25 years prior to the current year.

Contemporary: Any wooden boat built within the last 25 years.

Boats classified as Historic up through Late Classic will be judged separately as Preserved, Restored or Resto-Mod

Resto-Mod: Any historic, antique, classic or late classic boat that has been restored and modified with non-original parts and technology.

For more information [click here](#).